GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:432
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SCS/STS .
A. KRISHNASWAMY

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have been implementing various schemes and programmes under Special Component Plan (SCP) and TSP since 1978 for achieving overall development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who live below poverty line;

(b) if so, the details of income generating schemes/programmes formulated/being implemented by his ministry;

(c) the funds allocated and procured by his Ministry during Sixth, Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans for such schemes/programmes;

(d) the quantified benefits and targets achieved in this regard; and

(e) the details of other schemes/programmes being implemented by his Ministry for economic empowerment of SCs and STs?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA)

(a) to (e): The Ministry of Food Processing Industrieswas established in 1988 and several schemes are being operated which aim at development of the processed food sector. The Plan schemes envisage enhanced scale of assistance for difficult areas including Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas. The schemesof the Ministry are project oriented, the specific quantum of funds accruing to SC/ST as well as the benefits have not been separately maintained.

Under the scheme for Backward Linkages, there is stipulation that20% of the contracted farmers should belong to SC/ST community. Similarly, in the fisheries sector, provision of insulated boxes must involve at least 20% beneficiaries from SC/ST. Proposals for Seminars/Symposia inareas where SC/ST populationis predominant is given priority. Plan assistance to projects in the North-East, which has predominant tribal population, has been more than 10% per year of the total allocation during the last three years.